This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Council without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

## Act No. 37 (H.462). Labor; employment practices; social media privacy

## An act relating to social media privacy for employees

This act adds 21 V.S.A. § 495k relating to social media privacy rights for employees and applicants. It prohibits an employer from requiring, requesting, or coercing an employee to provide a social media account username or password, or to present or divulge social media content to the employer. This act prohibits employers from requiring or coercing an employee to add the employer to his or her list of contacts for a social media account.

This act includes exemptions for certain activities conducted by law enforcement agencies and for social media accounts provided by employers. It also allows an employer to request an employee to disclose specifically identified content necessary for compliance with legal or regulatory requirements, or as part of an investigation of unlawful harassment, threats of violence, or unauthorized disclosure of confidential information.

Effective Date: January 1, 2018